



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

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January 1, 2011 Cattle and Calf Inventory

Montana's January 1, 2011 inventory of cattle and calves was 2.50 million head, down 2 percent from the 2010 inventory. The inventory of beef cows that had calved on January 1, 2011 was up 1 percent from a year ago to 1.48 million head. The number of milk cows was down 7 percent from a year ago to 14,000 head.

Beef cow replacement heifers weighing 500 pounds or more were up 19 percent from 2010 to 405,000 head. Milk cow replacement heifers were unchanged from last year at 7,000 head. The number of other heifers weighing 500 lbs or more decreased 22 percent from last year to 213,000 head.

The inventory of steers weighing 500 pounds or more was down 26 percent from 2010 to 195,000 head. The

inventory of calves weighing less than 500 pounds, at 100,000 head, was up 5 percent from 2010. Inventory of bulls weighing 500 pounds or more was unchanged at 90,000 head.

The number of cattle and calves on full feed that will be sent directly to slaughter, at 30,000 head, was up 15 percent from a year ago. There were 1.49 million calves born during 2010, up 1 percent from the previous year.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2011, totaled 92.6 million head, 1 percent below the 93.9 million on January 1, 2010. This is the lowest January 1 inventory of all cattle and calves since the 91.2 million on hand in 1958.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 40.0 million, were down 1 percent from the 40.5 million on January 1, 2010. Beef cows, at 30.9 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2010. Milk cows, at 9.1 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2010.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2011, and the change from January 1, 2010, are as follows:

- All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.5 million, down 1 percent.
- Beef replacement heifers, 5.2 million, down 5 percent.
- Milk replacement heifers, 4.6 million, up 1 percent.
- Other heifers, 9.8 million, up 1 percent.
- Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.4 million, down 1 percent.
- Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.2 million, down 2 percent.
- Calves under 500 pounds, 14.5 million, down 3 percent.
- Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.0 million, up 3 percent.

The 2010 calf crop was estimated at 35.7 million head, down 1 percent from 2009. This is the smallest calf crop since the 34.9 million born during 1950. Calves born during the first half of 2010 are estimated at 25.9 million, down 1 percent from 2009.

The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 26.7 million, down 3 percent.

Cattle and Calves Inventory January 1, 2009-2011

Class of Livestock	Montana				United States			
	2009	2010	2011	'11/'10	2009	2010	2011	'11/'10
	1,000 Head				1,000 Head			
All Cattle and Calves	2,600	2,550	2,500	98%	94,521	93,881	92,582	99%
Cows & Heifers that have calved	1,510	1,480	1,490	101%	41,045	40,457	40,015	99%
Beef Cows	1,494	1,465	1,476	101%	31,712	31,371	30,865	98%
Milk Cows	16	15	14	93%	9,333	9,086	9,150	101%
Heifers 500 pounds and over	620	620	625	101%	19,576	19,746	19,533	99%
For beef cow replacement	385	340	405	119%	5,531	5,451	5,158	95%
For milk cow replacement	10	7	7	100%	4,410	4,526	4,557	101%
Other heifers	225	273	213	78%	9,635	9,769	9,818	101%
Steers 500 pounds and over	265	265	195	74%	16,769	16,510	16,382	99%
Bulls 500 pounds and over	90	90	90	100%	2,184	2,190	2,153	98%
Calves less than 500 pounds	115	95	100	105%	14,948	14,979	14,500	97%
Cattle on Feed	45	26	30	115%	13,856	13,642	14,023	103%

Calf Crop, 2008-2010

	2008	2009	2010	'10/'09	2008	2009	2010	'10/'09
Calves born during year (1,000 Hd)	1,490	1,480	1,490	101%	36,153	35,939	35,685	99%

January 1, 2011 Sheep and Goat Inventory and 2010 Wool Production

Montana's sheep and lamb inventory was 230,000 head on January 1, 2011, down 6 percent from last year.

Breeding sheep and lamb numbers were down 7 percent from 2010 to 215,000 head. The category breakouts were as follows: Ewes one year and older, 170,000 head, rams one year and older, 7,000 head, replacement lambs, 38,000 head, and 2010 lamb crop, 225,000 head.

All market sheep and lambs on hand January 1, 2011 totaled 15,000 head, unchanged from 2010. Of that total, 2,000 head were sheep, and 13,000 head were lambs. The market lambs by weight category are as follows: 8 percent weighed less than 65 pounds, 15 percent weighed 65-84 pounds, 62 percent were in the 85-105 pound category, and 15 percent were over 105 pounds.

Montana wool growers produced 2.0 million pounds of wool during 2010, down 7 percent from 2009. The 2010 price per pound of wool increased \$0.50 to \$1.60 per pound. The total value of all wool produced in 2010 increased 35 percent to \$3.2 million. The total number of head shorn was down 15,000 head from 2009 to 215,000 head. The average fleece weight was unchanged from 2009 at 9.3 pounds in 2010.

Montana's milk goat inventory in 2011 decreased 4 percent from last year to 2,600 head, and meat and other goat inventory decreased 22 percent to 7,000 head on January 1, 2011. All other categories were not published but were included with the U.S. numbers.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 5.53 million head, down 2 percent from 2010. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.12 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.26 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2011, totaled 1.42 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2010. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 34 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

The 2010 lamb crop of 3.60 million head, was down 2 percent from 2009. The 2010 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2010, unchanged from 2009.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2010 was 30.6 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2009. Sheep

and lambs shorn totaled 4.22 million head, up slightly from 2009. The average price paid for wool sold in 2010 was \$1.15 per pound for a total value of 35.3 million dollars, up 45 percent from 24.3 million dollars in 2009.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2011, totaled 3.00 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.49 million head, down 1 percent from 2010. Does one year old and older, at 1.84 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 514,000 head, down 1 percent from a year ago.

The U.S. kid crop for 2010 totaled 1.91 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2009.

Meat and all other goats totaled 2.47 million head on January 1, 2011, down 2 percent from 2010. Milk goat inventory increased to 360,000 head, 1 percent above January 1, 2010, while Angora goats were up 7 percent, totaling 172,000 head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2010 was 1.09 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 181,000 head. Average weight per clip was 6.0 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.49 per pound with a value of 3.79 million dollars.

Sheep, Lambs and Goats Inventory January 1

Class of Livestock	Montana			United States		
	2010	2011	'11/'10	2010	2011	'11/'10
	1,000 head			1,000 head		
All Sheep and Lambs	245	230	94%	5,620	5,530	98%
Breeding sheep	230	215	93%	4,185	4,115	98%
One year old & older						
Ewes	185	170	92%	3,335	3,255	98%
Rams	7	7	100%	195	190	97%
Replacement Lambs	38	38	100%	655	670	102%
Market Sheep & Lambs	15	15	100%	1,435	1,415	99%
Sheep	2	2	100%	80	80	100%
Lambs	13	13	100%	1,355	1,335	99%
Milk goats	2.7	2.6	96%	356	360	101%
Meat and other goats	9.0	7.0	78%	2,521	2,468	98%

Lamb Crop

Item	2009	2010	'10/'09	2009	2010	'10/'09
Lamb crop (1,000 head)	235	225	96%	3,690	3,600	98%

Sheep and Lambs Shorn and Wool Production and Value

Item	2009	2010	'10/'09	2009	2010	'10/'09
Number Shorn (1,000 Hd)	230	215	93%	4,195	4,215	100%
Average Pounds per Fleece	9.3	9.3	100%	7.4	7.3	99%
Wool Produced (1,000 Lbs)	2,150	2,000	93%	30,860	30,600	99%
Wool: Dollars Per Pound	1.10	1.60	145%	0.79	1.15	146%
Total Value (1,000 Dollars)	2,365	3,200	135%	24,337	35,288	145%

Ag Prices Received for December 2010

December full month crop prices were mixed when compared with November 2010. Montana's winter wheat price was \$5.99 per bushel, up \$0.15 from the previous month, spring wheat increased \$0.05 to \$6.44 per bushel, but durum wheat decreased \$0.11 to \$5.99 per bushel. Feed barley was up \$0.08 from November to \$3.30 per bushel but malt barley decreased \$0.09 to \$3.83 per bushel.

The mid-January price for alfalfa hay was \$1.00 above December at \$77.00 per ton and all other hay increased \$9.00 to \$77.00 per ton. Mid-January grain prices were higher when compared with December 2010. Winter wheat was \$7.18 per bushel, spring wheat was \$8.69 per bushel, durum wheat was \$7.65 per bushel, feed barley was \$3.66 per bushel, and malt barley was \$4.06 per bushel.

Livestock prices for the full month of December were higher when compared with November 2010. Steer and heifers increased \$3.00 to \$118.00 per cwt, cows were up \$3.00 to \$54.70 per cwt.

The price for beef cattle was \$95.80, up \$0.40 per cwt, and calves rose \$5.00 to \$136.00 per cwt. Sheep were up \$20.70 to \$67.60 per cwt and lambs were up \$11.00 to \$155.00 per cwt. The all milk price decreased \$0.70 per cwt from November to \$17.40 per cwt.

Beginning with January 2011, State level cows, calves, steers and heifers, and beef cattle prices will be discontinued. United States level cows, calves, steers & heifers, and beef cattle prices will be published based on data provided by United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service. Beginning with January 2011, State and United States level fluid grade and manufacturing grade milk prices will be discontinued.

U.S. prices for December and changes from November were as follows: winter wheat was \$6.40 per bushel, up \$0.40, spring wheat was \$6.57 per bushel, up \$0.21, durum wheat was \$6.07 per bushel, up \$0.03, all barley was \$3.84 per bushel, up \$0.02, oats were \$2.96 per bushel, down \$0.06, steers and heifers were \$104.00 per cwt, up \$3.00, cows were \$55.20 per cwt, up \$3.50, calves

were \$128.00 per cwt, up \$4.00, sheep were \$65.70 per cwt, up \$11.50, lambs were \$146.00 per cwt, up \$4.00 and all milk was \$16.70 per cwt, down \$1.20 per cwt.

The U.S. mid-January winter wheat price was \$7.23 per bushel, spring wheat was \$7.69 per bushel, durum wheat was \$7.17 per bushel, malt barley was \$4.10 per bushel, feed barley was \$3.84 per bushel, and oats were \$3.04 per bushel,.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in January, at 169 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 11 points (7.0 percent) from December. The Crop Index is up 20 points (11 percent) but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received higher prices for corn, cattle, wheat, and soybeans and lower prices for eggs, turkeys, milk, and broilers. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of soybeans, corn, cattle, and rice offset decreased marketings of cotton, wheat, and apples.

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Dec 2009	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Dec 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2009	15-Jan-10	15-Jan-10
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	5.07	5.84	5.99	6.40	+0.15	+0.92	7.18	7.23
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.23	6.10	5.99	6.07	-0.11	+0.76	7.65	7.17
Spring Wheat	Bu	6.13	6.39	6.44	6.57	+0.05	+0.31	8.69	7.69
All Wheat	Bu	5.51	6.09	6.18	6.45	+0.09	+0.67	7.86	7.40
All Barley	Bu	4.76	3.78	3.69	3.84	-0.09	-1.07	3.95	4.05
Feed Barley	Bu	2.47	3.22	3.30	3.29	+0.08	+0.83	3.66	3.84
Malt Barley	Bu	5.03	3.92	3.83	3.97	-0.09	-1.20	4.06	4.10
Oats	Bu	2.53	na	na	2.96	na	na	na	3.04
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	93.00	83.00	76.00	121.00	-7.00	-17.00	77.00	121.00
All Other Hay	Ton	93.00	75.00	68.00	94.60	-7.00	-25.00	77.00	95.30
All Hay Baled	Ton	93.00	81.00	74.00	112.00	-7.00	-19.00	77.00	112.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	95.80	115.00	118.00	104.00	+3.00	+22.20	na	110.00
Cows	Cwt	42.90	51.70	54.70	55.20	+3.00	+11.80	na	63.00
Beef Cattle 1/	Cwt	72.00	95.40	95.80	98.10	+0.40	+23.80	na	106.00
Calves	Cwt	109.00	131.00	136.00	128.00	+5.00	+27.00	na	135.00
Sheep	Cwt	44.10	46.90	67.60	65.70	+20.70	+23.50	na	na
Lambs	Cwt	111.00	144.00	155.00	146.00	+11.00	+44.00	na	na
All Milk	Cwt	19.90	18.10	17.40	16.70	-0.70	-2.50	16.70	16.20

1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.

2010 Grazing Fee Rates for Montana and the United States

Grazing fees paid by Montana producers for grazing livestock on privately owned, non-irrigated grazing land were unchanged for cow-calf pairs, but higher for AUM and on a per-head basis in 2010, according to USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. Cattle producers paid \$20.20 per cow-calf pair in 2010, unchanged from the previous year. The average

fee paid for grazing livestock on an AUM (animal unit month) basis was \$18.40 per month, up \$0.40 from last year. Grazing fee rates charged on a per head basis were \$19.30 per month, up \$0.40 from last year.

In the 17 states that estimate grazing fees in the United States, the AUM grazing rate was \$15.30 per month in 2010, up \$0.70 from the previous year. The cow-calf rate was \$17.90 per month, up \$0.90 from 2009, and the

per head rate, at \$16.60 per month, was up \$1.10 from 2009.

All grazing fees are for privately-owned, non-irrigated grazing land. Rates charged for public land, irrigated land, and harvested cropland were excluded. The AUM rate includes reported AUM rates plus reported cow-calf rates that were converted to an AUM basis. The cow-calf rate was converted to AUM basis using the following formula (1 AUM=cow-calf *0.833).

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

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